

radio zones and different time slots are allocated for communications at a same communication frequency in adjoining radio zones.

This configuration enables an automobile communications system and method which can ensure fast hand-over without putting unnecessary burdens on mobile stations. The configuration also permits continuous communication over a plurality of radio zones without switching transmission and reception frequencies.

II. THE 35 U.S.C. § 112 REJECTION

The Office Action rejects claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner alleges that the recitations “a same communication frequency is not permitted in adjoining radio zones” and “different time slots are allocated for communications at a same communication frequency in adjoining radio zones.” However, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not given weight to the word “simultaneous” before the first recitation.

The recitation of “simultaneous transmission at a same communication frequency is not permitted in adjoining radio zones” means that communications between adjoining radio zones are not permitted at the same time instant at the same frequency.

The second recitation of “different time slots are allocated for communications at a same communication frequency in adjoining radio zones” means that communications at a same frequency between adjoining radio zones are performed at different times slots. Thus, the second

recitation implements the stated purpose of the first recitation and Applicant respectfully submits that these recitations do not conflict and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the Application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests prompt reconsideration and allowance.

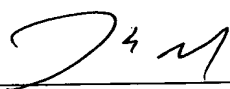
Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the Application into condition for allowance, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date:

8/8/02



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